



Reference No. 6.37

# WAGE RATES INDEXES : APRIL 1974 (PRELIMINARY STATEMENT)

## MAIN FEATURES

In the twelve months to 30 April 1974 weighted average minimum weekly wage rates for Australia increased by 19.2 per cent to \$81.82 a week for adult males and by 25.2 per cent to \$67.17 a week for adult females.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for April 1974 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or

State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. Because the indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of wages as distinct from *salaries*, those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for July 1972 and subsequent months are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

TABLE 1. - WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES  
 ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males (b)				Adult females (c)			
	Weekly wage rates		Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates		Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (d)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (d)	Wage rates (\$)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (d)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (d)
1973 -								
April	68.63	243.0	171.83	242.9	53.66	269.5	135.25	269.6
May	72.82	257.8	182.17	257.5	58.31	292.9	146.99	293.0
June	73.99	262.0	185.19	261.8	58.77	295.2	148.14	295.3
July	74.31	263.1	185.98	262.9	59.28	297.8	149.44	297.9
August	75.05	265.7	187.88	265.6	59.63	299.5	150.31	299.6
September	75.38	266.9	188.76	266.8	60.33	303.0	152.08	303.1
October	75.81	268.4	189.86	268.3	61.64	309.6	155.38	309.7
November	76.34	270.3	191.20	270.3	62.97	316.3	158.72	316.4
December	76.74	271.7	192.24	271.7	64.31	323.0	162.11	323.1
1974 -								
January	77.28	273.6	193.62	273.7	65.05	326.7	163.97	326.8
February	77.50	274.4	194.19	274.5	65.37	328.4	164.78	328.4
March	78.31	277.3	196.28	277.4	65.60	329.5	165.35	329.6
April	81.82	289.7	205.29	290.2	67.17	337.4	169.33	337.5

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes above. (b) Excludes rural industry. Hourly rates also exclude shipping and stevedoring. The former is not included in the wage rates index and for the latter definite particulars for the computation of hourly wage rates are not available. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction. (d) Base : Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.



TABLE 2. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1974 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Rates of wage (\$)							Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (c)	110.25	80.22	104.57	72.79	74.74	79.10	99.46	352.2
Manufacturing -								
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	78.82	80.44	84.06	77.10	80.00	76.92	79.55	281.7
Textiles, clothing and footwear	77.00	76.42	75.77	73.61	76.80	74.98	76.44	270.7
Food, drink and tobacco	79.73	78.48	80.77	73.15	78.14	73.94	78.81	279.0
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	74.95	77.77	82.19	78.45	77.73	71.62	77.38	274.0
Paper, printing etc.	80.96	81.57	91.72	83.62	90.79	74.72	82.44	291.9
Other manufacturing	78.02	79.18	80.89	78.45	77.09	70.26	78.45	277.8
All manufacturing groups	78.53	79.34	82.61	77.12	79.14	74.34	79.01	279.7
Building and construction	84.00	96.28	80.27	79.09	85.87	81.01	85.94	304.3
Railway services	74.69	69.42	85.37	73.27	68.83	76.76	75.60	267.7
Road and air transport	88.86	77.09	78.79	77.48	77.90	75.60	82.31	291.4
Shipping and stevedoring (d)	80.28	80.86	81.57	80.87	80.83	80.58	80.75	285.9
Communication	102.38	103.26	102.04	101.87	103.00	99.85	102.49	362.9
Wholesale and retail trade	83.18	83.76	83.33	77.42	80.07	77.60	82.42	291.8
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	80.50	85.95	85.43	73.34	75.55	83.28	81.71	289.3
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	75.32	73.50	76.49	77.25	69.39	71.15	74.50	263.8
All industry groups (e)	82.34	82.20	84.09	78.04	79.67	77.82	81.82	289.7

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (c) For mining, rates of wage used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (d) Includes rates of wage (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers. (e) Excludes rural industry.

TABLE 3. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (b)									
1973 - April	68.77	68.72	70.38	66.68	67.07	67.44	68.25	69.04	68.63
November	76.15	76.35	79.39	74.06	74.95	75.11	75.84	76.88	76.34
December	76.76	76.71	79.46	74.39	75.12	75.43	76.18	77.35	76.74
1974 - January	76.95	77.29	81.21	74.68	75.60	75.55	76.29	78.35	77.28
February	77.19	77.54	81.31	74.81	75.97	75.65	76.47	78.62	77.50
March	78.48	77.64	83.11	75.04	76.17	75.68	77.38	79.33	78.31
April	82.34	82.20	84.09	78.04	79.67	77.82	82.35	81.26	81.82
ADULT FEMALES (c)									
1973 - April	54.93	52.65	53.88	52.19	53.01	49.85	52.07	55.00	53.66
November	65.53	61.17	62.30	59.02	62.21	59.41	59.98	65.50	62.97
December	66.89	62.56	63.78	60.02	63.42	60.55	62.26	66.05	64.31
1974 - January	66.95	63.83	65.20	60.62	64.87	61.64	62.40	67.30	65.05
February	66.97	64.64	65.25	61.01	64.94	61.85	62.48	67.82	65.37
March	67.12	64.71	66.19	61.20	65.36	62.16	62.71	68.05	65.60
April	68.32	66.91	67.81	62.20	66.94	63.33	65.49	68.61	67.17

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Excludes rural industry. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Canberra. A.C.T. 2600

J. G. MILLER  
Acting Commonwealth Statistician

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.